

Refuge Monitoring and Modeling: Progress Since Feb. 3 TOC

Laura Brandt, Mike Waldon, Matt Harwell, Nick Aumen
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Activities/progress since Feb 3

- Met on Feb 4 at SFWMD to receive comments, criticisms, & suggestions
- Currently revising plan to incorporate much of this input
- Investigating contracting alternatives
- Drafting documentation for hiring a term federal employee at GS-11 level
- Coordinating with other studies



Met on Feb 4 at SFWMD to receive comments, criticisms, & suggestions

- Staff from SFWMD, FDEP, USACE, refuge, ENP, and others attended



Currently revising plan to incorporate much of this input

- Locating/reading references
- Extending narrative
- Considering revisions to conductivity map plan
- Expanding description of model specs and temporal/spatial resolution
- Discussion of selection of model(s)
- ...



Investigating contracting alternatives

- Funds are not yet available
- SFWMD lab may perform analyses
- Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit is likely contract vehicle for modeling support
- Currently discussing budgeting details



Drafting documentation for hiring

- Anticipate hiring a term federal employee
- GS-11 Ecologist
- GS-11 will lead monitoring program and coordinate with modeling project
- Also plan to hire a term GS-7 to assist in monitoring
- Until available, refuge staff will initiate studies (where feasible)



Coordinating with other studies

- Sue Newman (SFWMD)
- Paul McCormick (USGS)
- Phil Darby, Univ. of West Florida
- Permit monitoring requirements – need for language in STA-1E permit
- Other studies



Future

- **We expect to have a revised plan available this month**
- **More discussions are likely at the refuge science meeting tentatively scheduled in April**
- **We hope monitoring will begin in April**
- **Modeling to commence in April/May**

